What is claimed is:

1. A management method of hardware configuration information by a computer by which hardware configuration information of each device constituting the computer is

5   managed, said management method comprising the steps of:

acquiring hardware configuration information of each device at a plurality of predetermined timing sets; and

recording the acquired hardware configuration information into a predetermined nonvolatile storage

10 medium.

2. The management method of hardware configuration information according to claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

15   reading out the hardware configuration information acquired in the past and recorded in the nonvolatile storage medium;

comparing the readout hardware configuration information with the acquired hardware configuration

20 information; and

displaying the comparison result onto a predetermined display unit.

3. The management method of hardware configuration

25 information according to claim 1,

wherein the predetermined timing sets are timing at the time of executing BIOS of the computer and/or timing

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after OS is activated.

4. The management method of hardware configuration information according to claim 1,
5   wherein the hardware configuration information includes a version number of a program related to each device.

5. The management method of hardware configuration
10   information according to claim 1,
     wherein the computer is a client connected to a server through a network,
     the server receives client hardware configuration information acquired by the client through the network,
15   and
     the server records the received hardware configuration information into the predetermined nonvolatile storage medium.

20   6. The management method of hardware configuration information according to claim 5,
     wherein the hardware configuration information includes a version number of a program related to each device in the client,
25   the server records the most up-to-date program and a version number thereof with respect to a program related to each device in the client,

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the server compares the program version number related
to a predetermined device included in the received hardware
configuration information with a version number of the most
up-to-date program of said predetermined device, and

5   when the comparison results in inconsistency, the
server updates the program related to said predetermined
device to the most up-to-date program.

7. A recording medium in which a program managing

10 hardware   configuration   information   of   each   device
constituting a computer is stored, wherein said program
comprises:

a   process   of   acquiring   hardware   configuration
information of each device at a plurality of predetermined

15 timing sets; and

a   process   of   recording   said   acquired   hardware
configuration   information   into   a   predetermined
nonvolatile storage medium.

20   8. The recording medium according to claim 7 in which
said program is stored, wherein said program further
comprises:

a   process   of   reading   out   hardware   configuration
information which was acquired in the past and is stored

25 in the nonvolatile storage medium;

a   process   of   comparing   said   readout   hardware
configuration   information   with   the   acquired   hardware

configuration information; and

a process of displaying the comparison result onto a predetermined display unit

5   9. A computer having a plurality of devices comprising:

an acquisition section by which hardware configuration information of each device is acquired at a plurality of predetermined timing sets; and

a recording section which records said acquired

10   hardware configuration information into a predetermined nonvolatile storage medium.

10. The computer according to claim 9 comprising:

a comparison section which reads out the hardware

15   configuration information acquired in the past and stored in the nonvolatile storage medium, and compares said readout hardware configuration information with the acquired hardware configuration information; and

a display section which displays the comparison result

20   onto a display unit.

11. The computer according to claim 9,

wherein the predetermined timing sets are timing at the time of executing BIOS and/or timing after OS is

25   activated.

12. The computer according to claim 9,

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wherein the hardware configuration information
includes a version number of a program related to each
device.

5   13. A computer connected through a network to another
computer having a plurality of devices comprising:

a reception section which receives hardware
configuration information of each device acquired at a
plurality of predetermined timing sets from the other
10   computer through the network; and

a recording section which records said received
hardware configuration information into a predetermined
nonvolatile storage medium.

15   14. The computer according to claim 13, wherein the
hardware configuration information includes a version
number of a program related to each device, and said computer
comprises:

a comparison section which compares the version number
20   of the program related to each device included in the
hardware configuration information received from the other
computer with the version number of the most up-to-date
program related to said device; and

an update section which updates the program related
25   to the device of the other computer to the most up-to-date
program when the comparison results in inconsistency,

15. A recording medium in which a program to be executed by a computer connected through a network to another computer having a plurality of devices is stored, wherein said program comprises:

5   a process of receiving hardware configuration information of each device acquired at a plurality of predetermined timing sets from the other computer through the network; and

a process of recording said received hardware
10 configuration information into a predetermined nonvolatile storage medium.